

que cette lettre vous trouvera tous en parfaite sante. M^r Richardson vous marque le peu de Nouvelle quil y a Assure Ma chere Maman de nos amities ainsi que la famille. et la famille de Comodor Grant Je suis avec respects

Votre affectionnè fille

M Richardson

Translation

Fort Erie, February 18, 1798

My dear Papa: I am pleased to learn by Mr. Richardson's³⁹ letter from you that you are in good health, also Mama and all the family. I am much disappointed not to receive any letters and most mortified to see that my sisters have forgotten me so quickly. Certainly I have never missed a chance of writing to them often, but when I receive no answer I am discouraged, and fear that my letters weary them.

We had a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton and the children last week. They passed two or three days with us. They are well. We spent Christmas with them. I am glad to hear that you have had such a gay winter in Detroit. It has passed very agreeably here also. The children are well. John⁴⁰ walks everywhere and is as fat as ever. He is very fond of sleigh riding for he loves a horse. Jane⁴¹ speaks often of Mama and of Nelly.

I hope that this letter will find you all in perfect health. Mr. Richardson will tell you what little news there is. Assure my dear Mama of our love, also the family, and

³⁹ Dr. Robert Richardson, for whom see *B. H. R.*, I, 14, 441-42.

⁴⁰ John Richardson, eldest son and second child of Dr. Robert Richardson and Madeleine Askin, was born in Queenston, Oct. 4, 1796. In mature life he achieved fame as an author of works of history and of fiction. Most of his boyhood was spent in Amherstburg and at the home of his grandfather, John Askin. At the opening of the War of 1812 he joined, as a volunteer, the Forty-first Regiment and served with it throughout the entire period of the war on the western front. Following the war, he served for many years in the British army in Europe; at length, returning to Canada, he devoted himself to literature, in which he achieved much reputation but little financial reward. Failing in his efforts to earn a livelihood in Canada, he removed to New York, where on May 12, 1852, he died in great want. The best sketch of his career that has been written is the biography by A. C. Casselman, published as an introduction to a reprint edition of his *War of 1812*.

⁴¹ Jane Richardson, eldest child of Dr. Richardson and the writer, was born in Queenston, May 19, 1794. She married Robert Rist of the Thirty-seventh Regiment on Jan. 15, 1816. She died, Oct. 31, 1831, and was buried in the Butler burying ground at Niagara. See *ibid.*, xlv.